

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A vibrating aggregate for vibrating a piece attached thereto, the aggregate comprising:

a shaft;

an eccentric mass connected eccentrically to the shaft; and

transmission arrangements for driving the shaft;

the shaft including a rigid central portion and, at each end of the rigid central portion a shaft section mounted by a bearing structure consisting essentially of one bearing for each shaft section in a piece to be vibrated, an inner race of the bearing rotating with the respective shaft section, the shaft sections each being detachably connected to respective ends of the rigid central portion of the shaft by a joint, the joint being adapted to transmit torque moment, the joint being rigid and adapted to transmit bending moment;

wherein the shaft sections being connected to the rigid central portion results in the shaft being longer than the rigid central portion.

2. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 1, wherein each joint and the connecting shaft have counter surfaces in contact with each other.

3. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 2, wherein, for each joint and the connecting shaft, a recess is provided at an end of one of the joint and the connecting shaft and a projection insertable into the recess is provided at an end of the other one of the joint and the connecting shaft.

4. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the recess tapers towards its bottom and the projection tapers towards its point.

5. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 4, wherein the joint is shaped like a cone.

6. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 4, wherein the joint is shaped like a pyramid.

7. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an axial screw for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

8. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 2, further comprising an axial screw for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

9. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 3, further comprising an axial screw for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

10. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 4, further comprising an axial screw for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

11. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 5, further comprising an axial screw for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

12. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 6, further comprising an axial screw for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

13. (Previously Presented) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 1, wherein a length of the central rigid portion is shorter than a distance between the bearings.